

From: k c
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The proposed settlement with Microsoft is an ineffectual slap on the wrist. If accepted, it will be a horrible blow to the future of the technology industry in the United States.

Regardless of what they claim, Microsoft innovated very little technology in the course of it's history. Microsoft has stolen ideas, bought and crushed innovators, and done it's best to squeeze the lifeblood out of truly innovative competition. It's a guarantee that if Microsoft does it, someone else did it better, sooner. MS-DOS, Windows, DirectX, IIS, XBox, and .Net are all examples of technologies that were done better, sooner, by other companies, but were forced out of the market by Microsoft's predatory tactics.

As a computer professional, with a computer science degree, in my experience I have found that a Microsoft solution is invariably technically inferior to it's competitors. I have also found that, with ever increasing regularity, I am forced to use the Microsoft solution because of incompatibility issues that have no technical justification, but are in place only to discourage the use of competing products.

This nation was built on innovation and the ability to produce the best products. Our future in the world economy depends on it. The currently proposed DOJ settlement will ensure that we are only able to progress at a pace that Microsoft dictates, and in a manner with which they approve.

If this settlement is accepted, I will lose a lot of respect for the judicial system. I could draw no other conclusion but that the judicial system completely catered to Microsoft's interests, regardless of law, and at the expense of the progress of technology and free enterprise.

KC

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